

**REMARKS**

In the Office Action dated January 5, 2009, all of the pending claims (1-8 and 10-21) were rejected. With this Amendment, claims 1-5 are canceled, and claims 6-8 and 10-21 are presented for reconsideration and allowance. Also with this Amendment, the drawings and specification are amended as requested by the Examiner.

**Drawings and Specification**

The drawings and specification are amended to correct an inadvertent error whereby reference character 14 was used to designate both finger grip and proximal end. Specifically, the drawings and specification are amended so reference character 14 continues to designate finger grip, and reference character 199 now designates proximal end. Amended FIG. 9 is provided on a replacement sheet as required by 37 CFR 1.121(d). The amendments to the drawings and specification contain no new matter.

**Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103**

Claims 6-8 and 10-21 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Botich et al. (Int. Pub. No. WO 99/24092), hereinafter Botich, in view of Woehr et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2006/0264828), hereinafter Woehr. Independent claims 6 and 10 both require crimping a proximal end to seal the proximal end and embedding the crimped proximal end in a glue well. Botich discloses bending a rearward end 226, but does not teach or suggest crimping to seal the rearward end 226 and therefore, the rearward end 226 could merely be bent while not being pinched or crimped sufficiently to form a seal. Botich '092; FIGS. 9-10; pg. 13, ll. 15-18. Woehr also fails to disclose crimping, but does disclose inserting glue into a glue well 462. The glue well 462, however, is adjacent bore 460 so that glue will flow out of glue well 462 into the small clearance between the bore 460 and external diameter of needle 12. Woehr '828; FIGS. 19A-C; pg. 17, para. 0176. Even if one skilled in the art were to crimp the proximal end of needle 12, the crimped proximal end or mechanical interlock of needle 12 would not be disposed in the glue well 462 as required by claims 6 and 10. Since neither Botich nor Woehr teach or suggest the elements required,

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Application No.: 10/550,642

-7-

claims 6 and 10, as well as their respective dependent claims, are allowable over a combination of these references.

### **Conclusion**

All of the claims are believed to be in a condition for allowance and notice to this effect is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 and 1.17 and credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 11-0982.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: March 16, 2009

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